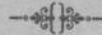
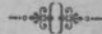


**Minutes** *RH*  
of the  
**Sixty-Fourth Annual Session**  
of the  
**Sardis Association of  
Regular Baptist**

THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST  
IN SESSION ASSEMBLED WITH  
**BENT BRANCH CHURCH**  
Meta, Pike Co., Ky.



**September 7, 8 and 9, 1956**



**ELDER ESTER HOPKINS, Moderator**

**ELDER B. H. BEVINS, Asst. Moderator**

**Troy T. Francis, Clerk      Elder Harold Edmonds, Asst. Clerk**

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## PROCEEDINGS

of the

### SIXTY FOURTH ANNUAL SESSION OF THE SARDIS ASSOCIATION OF OLD REGULAR BAPTIST THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST

In session assembled with the Bent Branch Church, September 7, 8, 9th, 1956. Service was introduced by Elder Emmette Case, followed by the introductory Sermon delivered by Elder Wayne Herald; "TEXT" Acts, fourth Chapter and Eleventh verse as follows: (this is the stone which was set at naught of you builders, which is become the head of the corner), then the delegates assembled at the Church House and after a short talk by Elder Jerry Hall, Sr., and prayer by Elder Tack Hall, the Association proceeded as follows:

1. Called for the letters from the several Churches and received the letters and seated the delegates.

2. The Association then organized by electing Elder Ester Hopkins, as Moderator; Elder B. H. Bevins, ass't Moderator; Brother Troy T. Francis, Clerk; Elder Harold Edmonds, ass't Clerk.

3. At the request of the Moderator, the rules of decorum were read by the Clerk.

4. Called for newly organized Churches and received none.

5. Called for letters from Sister Associations, and received as follows;

NEW SALEM—By the hands of Elders, Squire Hamilton, M. V. Burke, Johnie Hall, Jerry Hall Sr., F. A. Hopkins, Tack Hall, Henry Blair, and Brothers Willey Coffee, Johnie Tackett, Brack Hall, T. J. Turner, and Henry Goff. Letter in the hands of Elder Tack Hall.

UNION—By the hands of Elders Fon Bowling, Elmer Church, Johnie Church, W. F. Hubbard, Ted Parker, T. J. Tackett, W. S. Toliver, and Brothers E. H. Wallen H. E. Clark, and Elders Casey West. Letter in the hands of Elder Johnie Church.

PHILADELPHIA—By the hands of Elders Ernie Runyon, Elias Cotton, and Mont Burnett. Letter in hands of Elder Ernie Runyon.

MUD RIVER—By the hands of Brothers George Miller and Wetzel Ball. Letter in the hands of Wetzel Ball.

THORTON UNION—By the hands of Elders Charlie Cornett, D. N. Asher, T. G. Bates, R. H. Welch, Ray

Collins, Caleb Creech, Willie Wright, and Brothers J. B. Eversole, B. M. Potter and Billie Day. Letter in the hands of Elder R. H. Welch.

INDIAN BOTTOM—By the hands of Elders Alonzo Allen, Silas Frazier, Paris Hagans, Manus Isom, James W. Pratt, Olus Baldrige, Dewey Hagans and George Hagans. Letter in the hands of Elder Paris Hagans.

FRIENDSHIP—By the hands of Elders J. H. Belcher, Taylor Blankenship and C. J. Farley. Letter in the hands of Elder J. H. Belcher.

KYOVA—By the hands of Elders J. H. Pack, Reuben Dyer and Elihue Spence. Letter in the hands of Brother J. H. Pack.

6. Called for Transient Ministers and members of our faith and order, the following received. Elders Lewis Macum, Orville Runyon, Sam Thomas, Hamilton Blevins, Dee Ratliff, Mander Younts, Bud Coleman and Milton Thacker.

7. On motion it is ordered that we correspond with the following Associations. NEW SALEM, UNION, PHILADELPHIA, MUD RIVER, THORNTON UNION, FRIENDSHIP, INDIAN BOTTOM and KYOVA.

8. Ordered that the Moderator make all Temporary appointments.

9. Ordered, clerks to write letters to corresponding associations.

10. Committee appointed to take care of the visiting Brethren as follows: John Maynard, Edwin May and Ben Curry.

11. Committee appointed to see that the stand be supplied with ministers and that peace is preserved around the stand, same as above John Maynard, Edwin May and Ben Curry.

12. Committee appointed to arrange the ministry for Friday night and Saturday, consisting of one member from each Church, with the entire delegation of the Bent Branch Church. Ministers for Friday night as follows: Elders, first Johnie Hall; second, Johnie Church; and third, Taylor Blankenship.

Saturday, Elders, first, Wetzel Ball; second, Ray Collins; third, Reuben Dyer; and fourth, George Hagans.

13. Committee on arrangements, consisting of one delegate from each Church, with the Moderators and Clerks, with the corresponding Associations invited.

14. On motion by Elder B. H. Bevins, the Association adjourned until nine o'clock Saturday morning.

### SATURDAY MORNING

Met pursuant to adjournment and after song, service was introduced by Elder, Caleb Creech.

1. Called the roll and marked the absentees.
2. Read the bill of arrangements and discharged the committee on same.
3. Appointed a committee on finance consisting of Elders Wayne Herald, Charlie Johnson and Emmette Case, who reported the contributions from each Church as shown in the statistical table.
4. Called on treasurer to report, who reported as follows:

Total on hand for the year ending	
September, 8th 1956	\$930.42
Paid out for printing of minutes,	
freight charges and pictures	\$498.63
Secretary, Clerk and Treas. fees	50.00
Total paid out	\$548.63
Balance in bank	\$381.79
Received for pictures	30.00
Received from churches this year	443.50
Total on hand for next year	\$855.29

All expenses for the coming year will be deducted from the above Total.

5. By motion it is ordered that Troy T. Francis be appointed as Treasurer.
6. Ordered that the Clerk superintend the printing of the minutes, and that he have 3000 copies printed, and that he be allowed \$50.00 for his services as Clerk, Secretary and Treasurer.
7. Brethren called in union meetings and associations last year made this reports. Their reports received, failures excused. They all were admonished to be more faithful this coming year.

8. By motion it is ordered that we continue printing union meetings in our minutes.

9. Appointed the same committee to arrange for preaching Saturday night and Sunday, who reported as follows: Saturday night, first Elders, Ernest Breedlove; second, Elias Cotton.

Sunday, Elders, first, W. T. Wright; second, Elmer Church; third, Fon Bowling; fourth, Tack Hall; and fifth, our Monerator Elder Ester Hopkins closed the service.

10. Letters to sister associations read and appointed delegates as follows:

NEW SALEM—To be held with the New Salem Church, Floyd County, Ky. to begin on Friday before the fourth Saturday in September, 1956. Elders: Willie Stanley, Wayne Herald, J. G. Thornsbury, Ken Varney, Willie White, Harvey Lowe, J. L. Nichols, Perry Cline, Charlie Johnson, Ernest Cochran, B. H. Bevins, Ester Hopkins, Harold Edmonds, H. C. Maynard, Emmette Case, and Brothers: Caudill Williamson, Troy T. Francis, Oliver Tackett, Harold Varney, Tobie Robinett, and A. B. Francis. Letter in the hands of Elder Ester Hopkins.

UNION—To be held with the Little Jocie Church Breaks, Buckhannon, Va. to begin on Friday before the third Saturday in September, 1956. Perry Cline, Tommy Adair, Ken Varney, H. C. Maynard, Wayne Herald, B. H. Bevins, Ester Hopkins, Harold Edmonds, Jonah Ester Williamson, Emmette Case, Willie White, Cecil Evans, and Brothers: Caudill Williamson, Oliver Tackett, Harold Varney, Troy T. Francis, Tobie Robinett, A. B. Francis and Earl D. West. Letter in the hands of Elder Ester Hopkins

PHILADELPHIA—To be held with the South Fork Church, Worthington, Greenup County, Ky. to begin on Friday before the second Saturday in August, 1957. J. G. Thornsbury, R. A. Damron, B. H. Bevins, Ester Hopkins, Tommy Adair, Cecil Evans, H. C. Maynard, Willie White, Ernest Cochran, Johnie Nichols, and Brother George Fraley. Letter in the hands of Elder J. G. Thornsbury.

MUD RIVER—To be held with the Little Laurel Church, Myra, Lincoln County, W. Va. to begin on Friday before the fourth Saturday in August, 1957. Elders: W. C. Hay, Ester Hopkins, B. H. Bevins, Harold Edmonds, Emmette Case, Charlie Johnson, Wayne

Herald and Brothers: Troy T. Francis, Joe Robinett, and John Fouch. Letter in the hands of Elder W. C. Hay.

THORNTON UNION—To be held with the Oven Fork Church, Partridge, Letcher County, Ky. to begin on Friday before the third Saturday in August, 1957. Elders: Jonah Ester Williamson, Ken Varney, Emmette Case, Tommy Adair, Cecil Evans, Wayne Herald, Harold Edmonds, B. H. Bevins, Ester Hopkins and Brothers: Willard Young, Donnie Lowe and Harold Varney. Letter in the hands of Elder Emmette Case.

INDIAN BOTTOM—To be held with the Powell Church, Waynesburg, Lincoln County, Ky. to begin on Friday before the first Saturday in September, 1957. Elders: Harold Edmonds, Harvey Lowe, J. L. Nichols, Ken Varney, Edwin May, Tracy Hatfield and Brothers: Harold Varney, Matt Varney, Johnie Cochran, Ben Scott, Uley Perry and Sid Taylor. Letter in the hands of Elder Harold Edmonds.

FRIENDSHIP—To be held with the Friendship Church, Saulsville, Wyoming County, W. Va. to begin on Friday before the first Saturday in September, 1957. Elders: R. A. Damron, J. G. Thornsbury, Cecil Evans, Tommy Adair, Charlie Evans, H. C. Maynard and Brothers: Joe Robinett, Donnie Lowe and John Fouch. Letter in the hands of Elder Tommy Adair.

KYOVA—To be held with the Mt. Calvary Church, up Patrick Creek, from Rt. 52, about three or four miles south of Wayne, W. Va. beginning on Friday before the first Sunday in September, 1957. Elders: Emmette Case, Jonah Ester Williamson, Wayne Herald, Percy Canterbury, Willie White, Lewis Marcum, Ester Hopkins, B. H. Bevins, W. H. May and Brothers: John Scott, Oliver Tackett and George Farley. Letter in the hands of Elder Jonah Ester Williamson.

11. Ordered that we print obituaries of the deceased brothers and sisters presented to the brother Clerk at the close of the Association.

12. Ordered that the treasurer pay the expense of one Car for the visiting of sister Associations, that is paying for the Gas and Oil.

13. Ordered that we continue the printing of memorials in our minutes.

14. Ordered that we advise ministers of our association not to marry people into Adultry, where either man or woman has a living wife or husband.

15. Shall we receive into our fellowship men having more than one wife or women having more than one husband?

ANSWER—We advise the Churches not to receive into their fellowship any such, except those who have put away their companions for the cause of fornication, and such cases to have Gospel or Church evidence of same.

16. By move it is ordered that the circular letter written by Elder R. A. Damron, be read and received, and ordered printed in our minutes and Elder B. H. Bevins write a circular letter for approval next year.

17. By motion it is ordered that the treasurer pay Elder Ester Hopkins \$15.00 for Gas and Oil expenses incurred attending sister associations. Elder Ester Hopkins, amended the motion to give the Little Virgie Church the \$15.00 as a donation to pay on their debt in building their Church House.

18. By motion it is ordered that we send a letter as drafted, and appoint Elders: Ester Hopkins, R. A. Damron and Wayne Herald, to carry the letter to the Bethlehem brethren together with requirements as to taking up correspondence with us.

19. The Querries from the Apple Orchard Church, after being carefully debated on was turned down by the committee on arrangements.

20. Ordered that our next association be held with the Turkey Creek Church, to begin on Friday before the second Saturday in September, 1957.

21. By vote it is ordered that Elder Wayne Herald, preach the introductory sermon and Elder Willie White be his alternate.

22. Ordered that we tender our thanks to the Bent Branch Church and to the community at large.

23. Ordered that the minutes be read and signed by the moderators and Clerks.

24. On motion we adjourned to the time and place above mentioned.

Elder Ester Hopkins, Moderator,  
Elder B. H. Bevins, Ass't Moderator,  
Troy T. Francis, Clerk,  
Elder, Harold Edmonds, Ass't Clerk.



## UNION MEETINGS

Time and Ministers to Attend

### (APRIL)

SOUTHERN HOME, Citra Florida—First Saturday and Sunday. Elders: Wayne Herald, Tommy Adair, Cecil Evans, Jonah Ester Williamson and Emmette Case, all others invited.

### (MAY)

SALEM, Goody, Ky.—First Saturday and Sunday. Elders: J. G. Thornsby and Wayne Herald.

TURKEY CREEK, Turkey Creek, Ky.—Second Saturday and Sunday. Elders: Dock Scott, Ester Hopkins and Wayne Herald, with moderator attending.

### (JUNE)

ENON, McCarr, Ky.—First Saturday and Sunday. Elders: Wayne Herald, Dock Scott, J. W. McCoy, with moderator attending.

APPLE ORCHARD, Heenon, Ky.—First Saturday and Sunday. Elders: Cecil Evans, Ester Hopkins, and Edwin May.

LITTLE ROSA, Chattaroy, W. Va.—Second Saturday and Sunday. Elders: Dock Scott, J. G. Thornsby, Jonah Ester Williamson and J. W. McCoy.

MUNCY VALLEY, Pie, W. Va.—Third Saturday and Sunday. Elders: J. W. McCoy, Charlie Johnson, Ellis Davis, Jonah Ester Williamson and Dock Scott.

BUCK CREEK, Beauty, Ky.—Third Saturday and Sunday. Elders: Emmette Case, Jonah Ester Williamson, Ellis Davis, B. H. Bevins, Willis Dials and Dock Scott.

LITTLE VIRGIE, Kimper, Ky.—Third Saturday and Sunday. Elders: Emmette Case, Tommy Adair, Willie Stanley and Grover Carey.

SIDNEY, Threeforks, Ky.—Fourth Saturday and Sunday. Elders: Willie White, Fon Bowling, Butler Howell and Edwin May.

### (JULY)

DIX FORK, Canada, Ky.—First Saturday and Sunday. Elders: Tommy Adair, Grover Carey, Edwin May, Grover Adkins and R. A. Damron.

SAMARIA, Dingess, W. Va.—First Saturday and Sunday. Elders: Wayne Herald, Jonah Ester Williamson, Tommy Adair and H. C. Maynard.

LEANNAH, Moree, Ky.—Second Saturday and Sunday. Elders: Wayne Herald, Willis Dials and Edwin May.

MT. PLEASANT, Sidney, Ky.—Second Saturday and Sunday. Elders: Fon Bowling, Luther Conn and H. C. Maynard.

BIG BRANCH, Thomas, Ky.—Third Saturday and Sunday. Elders: Edwin May, Ester Hopkins and Johnie Hall, service begins at one o'clock on Saturday.

MARY ELIZABETH, Hatfield, Ky.—Third Saturday and Sunday. Elders: M. V. Burke, Edwin May, Wayne Herald, Ester Hopkins. With moderator attending service, begins at 10 o'clock both days.

NARROWS BRANCH, Hardy, Ky.—to begin on Friday before the fourth Saturday. Elders: Charlie Johnson, Wayne Herald and Ester Hopkins.

#### (AUGUST)

TABITHA, Barnabus, W. Va.—First Saturday and Sunday. Elders: J. G. Thornsbury, Charlie Johnson, Grover Carey, Willey Coffee and Willie White.

REBECCA, Trace Fork of Pigeon Creek, W. Va.—Second Saturday and Sunday. Elders: Reuben Dyer, Tommy Adair, Ester Hopkins, Jonah Ester Williamson, Charlie Johnson, and Loyd SESCO, this is also our memorial meeting time.

ELK FORK, Elk Fork of Pigeon Creek, W. Va.—Third Saturday and Sunday. Elders: J. G. Thornsbury, Jonah Ester Williamson, H. C. Maynard, and Charlie Johnson.

BENT BRANCH, Meta, Ky.—Third Saturday and Sunday. Elders Harold Edmonds and Dock Scott, with Communion Saturday afternoon.

ROSA, Baisden, W. Va.—Third Saturday and Sunday. Elders: Alvin Hagan, Elias Cotton, Taylor Blankenship, George Hagans, and Billie Moore, with communion Sunday afternoon.

BETHANY, Lenore, W. Va.—Fourth Saturday and Sunday. Elders: Grover Carey, J. G. Thornsbury, R. A. Damron and H. C. Maynard, this is also our memorial.

SARDIS, Delbarton, W. Va.—Fourth Saturday and Sunday. Elders: H. C. Maynard, Charlie Johnson, J. G. Thornsby and B. H. Bevins.

PILGRIMS HOME, Varney Ky.—Fourth Saturday and Sunday in JULY. Elders: Luther Conn, Elmer Church, Grover Adkins and Johnie Church.

**Note:** The communion meeting of the Pilgrims Home Church, will be held the fourth Saturday and Sunday in August, with Communion Sunday afternoon.

#### **Agreements by Request**

The Apple Orchard Church together with the Big Branch Church, have agreed to have a communion Meeting at the head of Sycamore Creek on the fourth Saturday and Sunday in July, with communion Saturday afternoon, by request of some of their members over there who are not able to go far to Church.

#### **SUNDAY'S SERVICE, SEPTEMBER 9th, 1956**

After singing several of the Old songs of Zion, to the Praise and Glory of God, the service was further introduced by Elder, W. C. Hay. He also led us in Prayer.

Second on the stand, Elder Fon Bowling, from the Union association, he used for a "Text" Acts the 10th chapter and the 34th verse, as follows: (then Peter opened his mouth and said, of a truth I perceive that God is no respecter of persons, 35th Verse, but in every nation he that feareth him and worketh righteousness, is accepted with him).

Third on the stand, Elder Elmer Church, also from the Union association, he used for a "Text" Psalms, 66th chapter, and the 5th verse, (Come and see the works of God, he is terrible in his doings, toward the children of men.

Fourth on the stand, our moderator, Elder, Ester Hopkins, he used for a "Text" Second Corinthians, 10th chapter, and the 4th verse, also as follows: (For the weapons of our warfar are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds). The brethren preached in one accord, and at the close of the service there were much rejoicing and praising the Lord.

Brethern let us all pray till we meet again that nothing will come before the association, that will cause us

any trouble. Let us work out everything in our home Churches, and keep it out of the association, then when we meet there will be nothing to cause us heart-aches like we sometimes have.

First I want to thank our Good Lord, for the three wonderful days of bright sunshine, that we had through our association. I want to thank the Bent Branch Church and the community at large for their hospitality shown us through this session of our association.

Also I want to thank the Sheriff of Pike County for the wonderful work they done in directing the traffic for our safety to and from our association may God bless them all. Thus ending the Sixty Fourth annual session of the Sardis association. May God bless you all till we meet again, is the prayer of your Clerk.

Troy T. Francis.

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### **A CIRCULAR LETTER**

To the moderator and officers of the Sardis Association and to the brethren and sisters in the Lord everywhere: Where it has pleased our Lord to place His name.

I believe this to be the first time I have been chosen to address you through the channels of our beloved Association and I pray God that His Spirit will so overshadow and lead me that I will be able to write to the Edification of His Sanctuary or Kingdom on earth and to your happiness and enjoyment.

If I should not quote too many scriptures is because I want you to keep more closely in touch with what I am trying to say instead of so often referring to verses etc.

Come hither and I will shew thee the bride the lamb's wife.

The true church is represented as woman, Isaiah 54. Mystery babylon is compared to a woman, Rev. 17-5.

I believe it is freely admitted by all, that God has a Church or Kingdom on earth. The great trouble is brethren that because the worldly Churches set in this world by Man agree with us on The Divinity of Christ, The Truth of The Scriptures, The Resurrection and Many other points, it has induced man down through the ages to lay hold on them Instead of Concerning himself with Eternal Life by a new Birth in Christ Jesus the Lord and being led by His Spirit.

(1) The law and the prophets were until John: Since that time the Kingdom of God is preached and every man presseth into it.

(2) For the Kingdom of God is not meat and drink: But righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost.

(3) And from the days of John the Baptist until now, the Kingdom of God suffereth violence and the violent take it by force.

(4) Upon this rock I will build my Church etc.

(5) And I appoint unto you a Kingdom etc.

All the scripture listed above prove beyond any question of doubt that His Kingdom is a visible one—composed of men and women who have become dead to sin and have been made Alive in Him by the operation of His Spirit and are Convented to-gether to keep His Commandments in His Kingdom. I firmly believe also brethren that it is invisible and that the invisible part is the brethren and sisters that have outstripped us in this life and have gone on to be with the Lord and are on yonders shore waiting and watching our approach to that city.

When the God of Heaven would establish His Church or Kingdom (and brethren I can't divide them) on earth. He took a seed or plant from the Eternal Kingdom in Heaven and planted it on earth in the Holy Hill Zion and Isaiah (60-14) shows her to be The City of The Lord, The Zion of The Holy One of Israel.

1—The Lord that established her was from heaven.

2—The material used was from heaven.

3—The Holy Spirit that leads is from heaven.

4—The new birth is from heaven.

5—It is all in Him, through Him and by Him.

6—He is the head of the body—He is the wisdom of the body and He is the life of the body.

7—The Church is His body.

Brethren let's not confuse this one with man made institutions that are not eternal and will therefore perish when man perishes that formed them—but having received a kingdom that can not be moved—and Daniel says—shall not be left to other people—and Isaiah says—the redeemed of the Lord shall walk

there and shall consume all these kingdoms and stand forever—lets be the more earnest in thanks and praises unto His name.

I preach and teach everywhere, as Paul says, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one sheep fold and one shepherd of the sheep, one kingdom both visible and invisible and will persevere through grace to glory.

Will you allow me now to trace that little family of God through this world that I was born into and became a part of ,if you please in as humble a way as I have ever been taught how.

\* \* \* \*

Let it suffice to say that the man God had formed and placed in that Garden violated His law was turned out. Cherabims and a flaming sword was placed to guard the way of the tree of Life. Man had sold himself for Naught and did not have the substance required to purchase himself back in favor with God.

As the world was peopled God saw the wickedness of man was great and it, repented Him that He had made man. One man found favor in His sight Noah and he was instructed to make an Ark. He made it of Gopher Wood and brethren God knew there was enough of this kind to make it. Not one stick of any other kind was found in it. There is just one kind in the True Church to-day brethren—those who became Dead to sin and are born again. No man adds himself brethren—He is born into her, if so be he is in. When Noah would inquire of land—he sent out the Raven. It never came back—it was satisfied to feed and feast on the Dead Carcasses. The little dove did return.

Again the world was peopled and we hear God calling Abram out of his country, into a land that God would give unto him. His name did not remain Abram for long brethren but after his faith was proven God changed his name to Abraham. Yours has been changed too if so you have been born again.

We now see his offspring being sold into Egypt and how that Hebrew nation thrived under the leadership of Joseph who had been brought into favor of the king—by God's own working. After 430 years we see them taking their departure from Egypt under the guiding hand of Moses. God had given Moses training handling natural sheep before sending him to lead His sheep out of that land. Egypt finally Thrust them out however and we see the kind of hands of Moses

administering unto them. Oh brethren how that man of God so wonderfully led them about. Willing on at least one occasion to be driven from God's face for their sakes. We see them at the Red Sea with that great body of water on one side and Pharaoh's forces on the other side of them. Moses was not frightened—Stand Still says he and see the Salvation of the Lord. When that Good man of God stretched his rod over that great sea, she rolled back and God's people walked across on dry land. There they were all baptised unto Moses, in the cloud and in the sea. We see them now this side of the sea if you please and then and not until then did they have a tabernacle in which God would manifest himself unto them. This tabernacle was so beautiful brethren and God's people pitched it at ever stop in their journey. Moses had made it According to the Pattern Showed Him in the Mount. Basiel of the Tribe of Judah and Aholiab of the Tribe of Dan was filled with understanding and knowledge from God as to how to do this work for Moses. That in my humble opinion does away with the schooling of preachers.

We see them marching towards that land that God had swore He would give unto Abraham. When the priest that was carrying the Ark of the Covenant touched the waters of Jordan, the waters rolled back and they walked across on dry land.

Moses had vouched unto the people that a prophet shall the Lord your God raise up of your brethren like unto me—him shall ye hear in all things, and it shall come to pass that every soul that wont hear that prophet shall be cut off from among the people.

We now see Jesus, born in Bethlehem of Judea. Time and space won't permit any detail here but we feel all are well informed about this birth and His growing into manhood and being subject unto His parents. I suppose many in that land knew of His family and family ties but yet He had not as yet been manifested to the Household of Faith. On this occasion He walked from Gallilee to Jordan to be baptised of John in Jordan; to enter upon His Priesthood. We hear so much about Baptism of late that I probably should not mention it here; however Jesus was then laying Salvation's plan. He was given as Leader and a Commander to the people. A wonderful counsellor brethren. His council is still wonderful and lets take all of it brethren. The scriptures no where cross themselves but each scripture gives strength to one connecting with it. The scriptures say "He that believeth and is

baptised shall be saved". No where does the scripture take weight from this one. Water brethren can not take away sin. It takes the blood of the everlasting covenant to do this. Water is not sufficient; however a pool of water no bigger than it takes to bury an individual in can not be taken from it's rightful place in God's plan of salvation. Jesus placed it as a door into this visible Church or Kingdom here in the earth. In this we are buried with him in Baptism. If we had not met Him before Baptism, then we could not be buried with Him in Baptism. This is the only way in which we can answer that Good Conscience and Raise to Walk In Newness of Life. We can then be like the Eunuch, go on our way rejoicing.

Jesus did live that perfect and innocent life on earth and produced in His Veins that Innocent Blood the seal of the Everlasting Covenant by the which men and women can be washed from sin. This is the only substance brethren that can accomplish this.

Jesus then met the old Church under the Law at Jordan, she having leaned upon His Arm through the wilderness. I believe He was baptised into the old Church under the law for—God said He would send the Rod of His Strength out of Zion. No wonder then Solomon called Her his sister his spouse and Spring shut up a Fountain Sealed.

Jesus led the Church by sight for a period of about three and one half year—imparting to them that he had chosen to be with him—His Laws Precepts and Examples that they might administer them after He had departed from this time world. Jesus honored that Law with His Life on that night of nights brethren when He took the Pascal supper with the twelve, and after Judas left, turned and set up That New and Living Way. He took the bread and wine and washed His disciples feet and told me and you to follow in His footsteps. If He is our Lord and Master we will perform this as all other things He set in order in His Church. You and I have been Invited to—Occupy—till He comes. We are not permitted to change one thing that He set in order. Brethren lets be careful not to remove any of the old Landmarks our fathers have set. My God—My God—Brethren lets not be guilty of trying to Remove any of them. They ought to be our meat and our drink.

Jesus set the Church to work under the Grace Covenant brethren on top of the mountain as both Isaiah and Micah said He would do. They both said



Nations or People would flow into it. John then was with Christ in the mount. I want to take you back to the top of this mountain in just a minute brethren after this brief announcement.

First I want to say that the Churches set up in Asia and we read in the Revelation of the letters sent to the Seven. Others grew out of these Seven brethren until many were in that country. That is the only way a Church can be set in motion is to come out of another Church and be set in order by Presbytery appointed by the mother Church to do this one work and no Elder can set in motion or moderate a body until it is set in order as outlined above.

By this practice and the Doctrine they held, are we able to trace Her back to the days of Christ and The Apostles.

The Churches prospered of the Lord until about the year 251 when the woman seated on the Scarlet Colored Beast came into power through the brain of Cyprain of Cartage. The scriptures say that there was War in Heaven. Allow me to say here that I firmly believe that the Garden of Eden in it's perfect state was the first Heaven—The Church that Christ set in order is the Second Heaven (foresake not the assembling of your selves to-gether in Heavenly Places) and where God is or dwells is the Third Heaven. This war then was in the Church or Heavenly Place. The corrupt element or False Church was cast out and the True Church marched on. The casting out of the corrupt element in the year 325 was called the Novation rapture. This occurred before the flight of the woman into the Wilderness where God's people lived in caves of the mountains of the Piedmont region and in the Alps mountains—Solomon saw Her in the Cliffs of the Rocks—As a Roe on the Mountain—As the Lilly Among Thorns—As the Bright and Morning Star and was finally made to exclaim "That the Winter is Past, the Rain is Over and Gone, the Flowers Appear on the Earth, and the Time of the Singing of the Birds is Come and the Voice of the Turtle is Heard in Our Land." Revelation 12-14 "And the Woman Given the Wings of a Great Eagle, that She might Fly Into the Wilderness, Unto Her Place, Where She is Nourished For a Time, Times and Half a Time From the Face of the Serpent. Daniel 12 chapter shows this to be a time, Times and the Dividing of Time which is same as spoken in Revelation. Now if a time is a year, times, two years and the divding of time or half a time is a half year, then we have 3-½ phrophe

years or 1260 days. In phrophecy a day stands for a year thus we have 1260 years; the time the true Church was in the Wilderness, where she was Nourished of God. Here the world lost sight of her. But not her little children. When we see a train enter a tunnel and comes out on the other end with the same infallible conductor, the same crew, the same baggage, we of a surety know it is the same train that entered. So it is with the True Church in the wilderness period of Her travels. We still have a record however, and your unworthy servant is in possession of letter written during this trying, but we think, the purest time when the Alter Fires Of Our Great Redeemer was kept burning in this wilderness, of their Letters of Association, and one stated that their tears were no longer tears of water but of blood. Oh how our dear brethren suffered during that 1260 years. Just read one of the books of Martyrs for your servant would never be able in all his lifetime to even try to tell you of their suffering. Add to this 1260 years, the year 425 when The Romish Harlot began her punishment of God's people and you will have a very important date in America—1685—when Thomas Griffith with an entire Church of 16 souls came to Rhode Island from Wales England and settled in this country. History says they took the Lords supper aboard ship thinking it might be their last. After the treaty of Westphalia was signed and the Romish Harlot lost her power to force Gods little children to join her ranks, they began to come to this country. Your school history says that Roger Williams set up the first Baptist Church in this Country. He did not do so. Williams baptised Ezekiel Holliman and then He baptised Williams, both of which was illegal, and Williams went back to England to get a legal baptism and never returned.

We now see the Churches thus set up in this country prospering of the Lord and I believe God visited the hearts of the Indians for Gods little children got along with them very well.

From this beginning in America, we trace our beloved Association back through some bearing indian names. I am attaching to this letter and making it a part of the same a historical account from the days of Christ and the Apostles down to this present day of the Baptist Succession of Churches.

Now brethren earlier in this letter I said I wanted to take you back to the top of that mountain that both Isaiah and Micah spoke about and the Psalmist in 72 Psalm said "There shall be an handful of corn in the

earth upon the top of the mountains: The fruit thereof shall shake like Lebanon: And they of the city shall flourish like grass of the earth." It was then Exalted above the hills. Is it Exalted to-day the minds and hearts of His believing children. It should be Uppermost. It is the Only Eternal Body in this World.

Now John was with Christ in the mount. We now see this loving apostle on an isle called Patmos. He was cast there for the Word's Sake and while on that rocky isle it seems to me passed the most beneficial years of His life. Among many things John told us of while on the isle there is one scene I want to call to your memory and want each and every one that hears or reads this letter of your humble servant, stop and give the More Earnest Thanks for this disclosure of that loving little apostle called John. He saw the City New Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God, adorned as A Bride For Her Husband. She had gates and the like and a wall great and high and it had Foundations 12. On each was written the names of the 12 apostles of the Lamb. Don't you see brethren that John here saw his own name there which is positive proof that the 12 Jesus ordained and sent out on the Mount was and is the Foundation stones under Grace—Jesus Himself Being The Chief Corner Stone Other Foundation Can No Man Lay.

Brethren I must close, but please forgive me for being so lengthy but this subject could be written about for all the years of our life and then the half would not have been told.

My God bless and save you all, is the prayer of your humble brother in the Lord.

Elder R. A. Damron

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The following shows a direct connection of the Church from the days of Christ and the Apostles down through the ages to the Sardis Association and shows a direct continuation of The Old Baptist Church down through the dark ages to the present time.

1. The apostle John was with Christ on the Mount where the Church was established. See Mark 3-13 & 14. Luke 6:12-13.

2. Polycarp was baptised by John the apostle or revelator on the 25th of December A.D. 95. See Neanders church history page 285.

3. Polycarp organized the Partus Church at the

foot of the Alps "Tiber" A.D. 150 and Tertullian was member of that body. See Cyrus commentary of Antiquity page 924.

4. Tertullian was from the Partus Church and organized the "Turan" Church.

5. Tolestman, a member of the Turan Church, organized the "Pontifossi" Church at the foot of the Alps in France A.D. 398. See Nowlins Church history page 318 Vol. 2.

6. Adromicus came the Pontifossi Church at the foot of the Alps in France. See Lamberts history page 47.

7. Adromicus from the Pontifossi Church organized the Darethea Church in Asia minor A.D. 671. See Lambert's History page 47.

8. Arthur Flavin from the Dorethea Church organized the "Timto" Church A.D. 738. See Mosheims history Vol. 1 page 394.

9. Balcola from the Timto Church in Asia Minor, organized the Lima Piedmont Church A.D. 812. See Neander's Church history Vol. 2 page 320.

10. A Aaron Arlington was ordained 940 A.D. by the Lima Piedmont Church. See Jones Church history page 324.

11. A Aaron Arlington from the Lima Piedmont Church organized the Hillcliffe Church A.D. 987. See Munston's history Israel of the Alps page 39.

12. The Hillcliffe Church was located at Wales England. The minutes of the Philadelphia association, book 3, page 1 shows that H. Roller from the Hillcliffe Church to the Philadlephia association.

13. Dr. John Clark from the Church at Wales came to America with four others and organized the Church at Rhode Island, Conn. 1638.

14. Thomas Griffith with an entire church from Wales sailed from there and Came to America, and landed in Rhode Island. History says that this little church took the Lord's supper and washed feet aboard the ship, thinking perhaps that might be the last one for them.

15. These two Churches in Rhode Island with a few others, organized the Philadelphia Association.

16. The Philadlephia Association organized the Ketockton Association.

17. The Ketockton association organized the Hoston Association.

18. The Hoston Association organized the South Elkhorn Association in the year 1784.

19. The South Elkhorn Association organized the South Licking Association 1787.

20. The South Licking Association organized the Burning Springs Association 1813.

21. The Burning Springs association organized the New Salem Association 1825.

22. The New Salem Association organized the Sardis Association in the year 1892.

R. B. Cook in his history says "The Baptist are able to trace their origin back to the days of Christ and the Apostles".

John Ridpath, a Medthodist author and writer, says he will admit there was a Baptist Church as far back as the year 100. He further says that all christians were Baptist then. Why then are not all christians Baptist to-day.

If you find yourself out of line with the scriptures, and not in harmony with God's teaching and plan of Salvation, why not seek the Old Church, receive a legal baptism and leave off the risk.

There is no scripture permitting or authorizing the setting up of any demoniation on earth, yet there are in this land of our, the bible number of them 666.

1st Timothy 1-17 says "Now unto the Kings eternal, immortal, invisible. The above shows there is an eternal Kingdom somewhere. 2nd Cor. 5-1 shows this eternal Kingdom in Heaven.

Now when God would establish his Church or Kingdom on earth. He took a seed or plant from the eternal Kingdom in Heaven and planted it on earth in the Holy Hill Zion. Isaiah 60-14 shows it the city of the Lord, the Zion of the Holy one of Israel.

The Lord that established her was from Heaven.

The Material used was from Heaven.

The Holy Sprit that leads them is from Heaven.

The New Birth is from Heaven.

The Eternal Life is from Heaven.

SIDNEY Church will hold a memorial meeting the fourth Saturday and Sunday in August. All ministers invited. Also a memorial of brother Dave Jude and others will be held on the Cemetary near Threeforks, Ky., Post Office, in Martin County, Ky. the fourth Sunday in July. A memorial of John Jude will be held the fourth Sunday in May.

DIX FORK Church will hold a memorial meeting the first Saturday and Sunday in August. Ministers called: Bud Coleman, Emmette Case, Ester Hopkins and Wayne Herald.

NARROWS BRANCH Church will hold a memorial meeting the fourth Saturday and Sunday in May. Ministers called: Ken Varney, W. C. Hay, H. C. Maynard and Wallace Maynard.

Also, there will be a memorial meeting held the 30th day of May on the George Smith Cemetary. Ministers called: Dock Scott, J. W. McCoy and Ireland Harrison.

LEANNAH Church will hold a memorial meeting the second Saturday in June, in memory of sister Esta (Muncy) Reed and her children. Also of sister Matilda (Muncy) Robinson and others the following day. Ministers called: Edwin May, Loyd Sesco, J. L. Nichols and brother Roland Maynard.

MEMORIAL will be held for all the deceased on the Lowe Cemetary, on Big Branch, Pike County, Ky. on Sunday after the second Saturday in August. Ministers called: Shadle Pauley, J. L. Nichols, Harvey Lowe and Edwin May.

MEMORIAL of uncle Jobe Blackburn and wife and all other deceased will be held on the Muncy Cemetary, on Sunday after the second Saturday in May. Ministers called: Jonah Ester Williamson, Edwin May, J. L. Nichols and Willis Dials.

BUCK CREEK Church will hold a memorial meeting the third Saturday and Sunday in August. All ministers invited.

LITTLE ROSA Church will hold a memorial meeting the second Saturday and Sunday in August. All ministers invited.

TURKEY CREEK Church will hold a memorial meeting the second Saturday and Sunday in October. Ministers called: Dock Scott, Ester Hopkins, Willie White and Ken Varney.

In fact it is all from Heaven and is the only Eternal body on earth.

The Regular Baptist Church holds to the commands and precepts as laid down by Christ in the New Testament scriptures.

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### MEMORIAL MEETINGS

MT. PLEASANT Church will hold a memorial meeting second Saturday and Sunday in October. Ministers called Edwin May, Jonah Ester Williamson and Sollie Kiser.

APPLE ORCHARD Church will hold a memorial meeting of Elder Heenon Maynard, Moses Fonsoe Lowe, and others the first Saturday and Sunday in August. All ministers invited, also a memorial on the Joe Taylor Cemetary on Sunday after the first Saturday in September.

ENON Church will hold a memorial meeting the first Saturday and Sunday in August. All ministers invited.

BENT BRANCH Church will hold a memorial meeting the third Saturday and Sunday in June. Ministers called Wayne Herald and Willie White.

SARDIS Church will hold a memorial meeting on the Adair Cemetary on Sunday after the fourth Saturday in July. Ministers called Harold Edmonds, Jeff May, Wayne Herald and Ellis Davis.

MARY ELIZABETH Church will hold a memorial meeting of Elder Wallace Jackson and others the third Saturday and Sunday in September. Also memorial of Elder J. W. Smith and other deceased members of the Mary Elizabeth Church will be held the third Saturday and Sunday in August. All ministers invited.

ELK FORK Church will hold a memorial meeting the third Saturday and Sunday in October. All ministers invited.

PILGRIMS HOME Church will hold a memorial meeting the fourth Saturday and Sunday in October. All ministers invited.

SALEM Church will hold a memorial meeting the first Saturday and Sunday in October. Ministers called: Ernest Coccran and Dock Scott.

ROSA Church will hold a memorial meeting the third Saturday and Sunday in October. All ministers invited.

LITTLE VIRGIE Church will hold a memorial meeting the third Saturday and Sunday in May. Ministers called: Harold Edmonds, Wayne Herald and Jonah Ester Williamson.

MEMORIAL of Russel P. McCoy and others will be held on the Ratliff Cemetery, on Sunday after the third Saturday in May. Ministers called: Butler Ratliff, Jonah Ester Williamson and Harvey Lowe.

MEMORIAL of brother Harrison McCoy and others will be held on Sunday after the third Saturday in August. Ministers called: Tommy Adair, Ernest Cochran, J. L. Nichols and Harvey Lowe.

MEMORIAL of Pfc. Edward McCoy and all others will be held on the Henry Taylor Cemetery on Sunday after the fourth Saturday in August. Ministers called: Edwin May, Ernest Cochran and Willis Dials.

MEMORIAL of Floyd Blackburn and two grandchildren will be held at the Blackburn Cemetery the third Sunday in June. Ministers called: Harvey Lowe, Jonah Ester Williamson and J. L. Nichols.

MEMORIAL of brother Johnie Nichols Sr. and wife will be held on Sycamore Creek on the Lowe Cemetery the fourth Sunday in June. Ministers called: Harvey Lowe, Tommy Adair, Edwin May and J. L. Nichols.

MEMORIAL of brother Carl Lowe, Philip Hanners and Glenda Sue Taylor will be held on the Hanners Cemetery the fourth Sunday in July. Ministers called: Harvey Lowe, Edwin May and J. L. Nichols.

MEMORIAL of J. M. Taylor and Family, Elder E. F. Fields and wife, brother Flem Maynard and wife, Ben and Lucy Blackburn's, children will be held the third Sunday in July. Ministers called: Ester Hopkins and Edwin May.

MEMORIAL of brother Tom McCoy and Elder Dike Blackburn, will be held Sunday after the first Saturday in September, on the Cemetery at Buck Branch, near the mouth of Wolf Creek. All ministers invited.

MEMORIAL of Elder W. H. Bowling and Family will be held at the Tom Price School House Piso Ky. the first Saturday and Sunday in September. At two o'clock on Saturday and Eleven o'clock on Sunday.



MEMORIAL will be held on the Harmon Maynard Cemetery, Piso, Ky., the first Sunday in August.

MEMORIAL will be held on the Frank Canterbury Cemetery on the 30th day of May on the Laurel Fork of Pigeon Creek three miles from Lenore, W. Va.

MEMORIAL will be held on the Bill Canterbury Cemetery the first Sunday in October on the Laurel Fork of Pigeon Creek two and one half miles from Lenore, W. Va.

MEMORIAL of Sedina Bowling will be held on the Deskins Cemetery at Borderland, Ky., on the first Sunday in July. Ministers called: Ireland Harrison, J. W. McCoy, Dock Scott and Lewis Smith.

MEMORIAL of brother Josh and sister Christine Runyon will be held on the Laurel Fork of Pigeon Creek, on the Runyon Cemetery the third Sunday in June.

MEMORIAL of sister Vance will be held on the Vance Cemetery on Twelve Pole Creek the second Sunday in September.

MEMORIAL of brother Robert Ellis will be held on the Yuma Cemetery the last Sunday in May.

MEMORIAL of Coosie Lowe the daughter of Elder L. G. Lowe and others will be held on the Runyon Cemetery on the Long Branch Sunday nearest decoration day. Ministers called: Mont Ellis, Jeff May and Avery Lowe.

MEMORIAL will be held on the Robinson Cemetery Sunday after the second Saturday in July.

MEMORIAL will be held on the Hannah Cemetery Sunday following the third Saturday in August, on the head of Marrowbone Creek, W. Va. Ministers called: Tommy Adair, Wallace Maynard and Cecil Evans.

MEMORIAL will be held on the Lackey Cemetery on Marrowbone Creek the first Sunday in September. Ministers called: Tommy Adair, Cecil Evans and Jeff May.

MEMORIAL will be held on the Perry Cemetery at Stepp Town W. Va., Sunday following the second Saturday in August. Ministers called: Wayne Herald, Wallace Maynard and Moses Maynard.

MEMORIAL will be held on the Ledson Cemetery three miles from Lenore, W. Va., on the first Sunday

in July. Ministers called: Emmette Case, Willie White, Wayne Herald and Ellis Davis.

MEMORIAL will be held on the Newsome Cemetery five miles from Lenore, W. Va., on the third Sunday in July. Ministers called: George Elkins, John Fouch and John Henry Hensley.

MEMORIAL will be held on the Dillon Cemetery three miles below Dingess, W. Va., on Twelve Pole Creek, on the third Sunday in September. Ministers called: Wayne Herald, Grover Carey and Cecil Evans.

MEMORIAL will be held for all the deceased on the Julius Scott Cemetery at Hardy, Ky., the third Sunday in August. Ministers called: Wayne Herald, Ester Hopkins and H. C. Maynard, all others invited.

## OBITUARIES



**ANNIE (STOTRIDGE) FRANCIS**  
Gone But Not Forgotten

It is with much sadness that I will try to write a short obituary of my loving mother who we miss from our home very sadly. Mother was born January the 16th, 1879, deceased this life February, 16th 1956, making her stay on earth 77 years and one month, at death. A daughter of Nathan and Sallie Cochran and was married to John Stotridge, who preceeded her in death. To this union were born 10 children, three of whom preceeded her in death. Those living are as follows: James Stotridge and Gladys Francis, of Turkey Creek, Ky.; Marie Smith, of Nolan W. Va.; Bennie and Clyde Stotridge, of Chillicothe, Ohio; Sallie Murphy, of Glen Alum, W. Va.; and Hibbart Stotridge, who is a patient

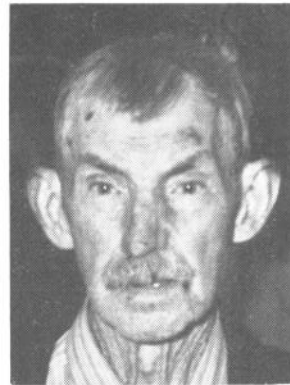
in the Lexington Hospital Lexington, Ky. Mother joined the Old Regular Baptist Church October the 25th, 1955 and was baptized by the hands of Elder Jonah Ester Williamson, into the fellowship of the Pilgrims Home Church. She leaves 59 grandchildren, a number of great grandchildren and one great grandchild.

She also leaves 6 brother and one sister: Marvin Cochran, of Nolan, W. Va.; Seabord Cochran, of Pikeville, Ky.; Adron Cochran, of Tuson, Arizona; Johnie Cochran, of Canada, Ky.; Harrison and Hervie Cochran, of Stone, Ky.; and Sarrah Owens, of Phico, W. Va. We feel that our loss is mothers eternal gain, that she will receive the Crown that is layed up for her in Glory. She was married the second time to M. H. Francis, who also preceeded her in death. There is something I want to say to mothers children, that is out on the barren mountains of sin if you every want to see mother again you better get on the straight and narrow way that leads to life eternal. Don't put it off today for tommorrow may be too late, may God bless all of you whom she loved so well.

Dear mother how we miss you in our home about the place, how my heart is filled with sadness, that I no more can see your face. But I hope by God's love and mercy we will meet again some day.

Written by her lonely daughter,

Gladys Francis.



**WILL SCOTT**

Born April 24th, 1871, departed this life October 4th, 1951. Age 80 years and 5 months and 20 days at death.

His Obituary was in 1952 Minutes and was sadly missed by his children, grandchildren and many friends on Narrows Branch, Hardy, Pike County, Ky.

And we do feel that our loss is his eternal gain. May God help us children and grandchildren to never forget the good council he gave us.

Grand daughter, Birdie Stanley



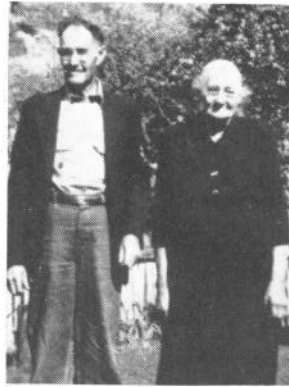
**ELDER W. T. RIFFE AND SISTER CHLOE RIFFE**  
Both Deceased

It is with a sad heart that I try to write this obituary of Sister Chloe Riffe. She was born September 9, 1879, making her 76 years, 2 months, 8 days old, when she deceased this life November 17, 1955.

In the year 1895 she was married to Wm. T. Riffe, who preceded her in death and to this union was born 10 children, two preceded her in death and 8 living. Two sons and 6 daughters. Clarence M. Riffe, Ballard Riffe, Mrs. Bessie Canterbury, Mrs. Georgia Ferguson, Mrs. Zella Vance, Mrs. Zula Robinson, Mrs. Garnet Vance, Mrs. Myrtle Curry. She also leaves 32 grandchildren, 33 great grandchildren and 2 brothers; William and Fred Riffe and a host of relations and friends to morn her loss. She was a member of the Old Regular Baptist Church for 35 years. She was a good Mother.

Written by,

Wallace Maynard



**SISTER BUENA SMITH AND BROTHER JAMES SMITH**  
**Both Deceased**

Sister Buena Smith, the daughter of James and Jane Blackburn Morris, was born April 16, 1874 at Canada, Kentucky and deceased this life on March 22, 1956 about 8:15 P.M., making her stay here 81 years, 11 months, and 6 days, where she was loved by all who knew her.

She married James Smith on November 23, 1895 and to this union were born 11 children, 7 boys and 4 girls.

She met the Lord in a pardon and remission of her sins and was baptized at the hands of Elders J. G. Thornsby and Harold Edmonds on the first Sunday in March, 1949, and placed her membership in the Dix Fork Church of Old Regular Baptist, the Church of Jesus Christ, where she remained a faithful member until death took her sweet presence from our midst.

Sister Buena and Brother James, her husband, were baptized on the same day, but Brother Jim, as we loved to call him, preceeded Sister Buena in death, as did the following children: Kennie Smith, Lee Smith and Hi Smith. But Sister Buena leaves the following children; Mrs. Willie Bevins, of Sidney, Kentucky; Mrs. Dona Smith and Lacy Smith, all of Canada, Kentucky; Harmon Brown, Toler, Ky.; Stirl Smith, George Smith, Mrs. Warren Hunt and Mrs. Charlie May, both of Hardy, Kentucky; one sister, Alice Mullins, besides a great host of relatives and friends who are left to mourn her loss.

But we feel that our loss is her eternal gain. We hear Jesus saying, "If any man will come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me

daily." This includes woman too. And we feel satisfied that during the time Sister Buena got to live with Christ and His Church here in this world, that she bore her cross with patience and Christ promised to "Come again and receive her" and all his believing children unto himself, "That where he is, there we may be also."

So children lift up your heads with courage bold for our redemption draweth nigh. You that are ready can go home with Christ to see your mother again.

My prayer is that all of us may live together in Heaven, with your mother, your daddy, and with God, and Christ, our Savior. May God richly bless and save every one of you is my prayer in Jesus' name.

Written by one she and her husband both loved,  
Elder Harold Edmonds



**SISTER AGGIE TACKETT**

Sister Aggie Tackett was born July 7, 1883 at Blaze Branch on Shelby Creek, in Pike County, Kentucky, the daughter of Levi and Peggy Blevins Belcher. She deceased this life on June 15, 1956 about 5:30 A.M., making her stay here 72 years, 11 months, and 8 days.

She was married to Hi Tackett in October 1900, and to this union were born 9 children, 5 boys and 4 girls. Two of her sons, Davy and one infant, preceded their mother in death as did her husband.

She became a member of the Pikeville Church of Old Regular Baptist in July 1940, being baptized at the hands of Elder Coley Conn. She remained a faithful member until death took her from our midst.

Left to mourn her loss are three sons, Oliver Tackett, of Belfry, Kentucky; Nelson Tackett, of Canada, Kentucky; and Jerdon Tackett, of Ypsilanti, Michigan; four daughters, Mrs. Alma Slone, of Detroit, Michigan; Mrs. Opal Carter, of Russell, Kentucky; Mrs. Maxine Gilliam, of Ypsilanti, Michigan; and Mrs. Goldie Childress of Elkhorn City, Kentucky; One brother, Hendricks Belcher, of Bart Lick, Virginia, besides a great host of relatives and friends including 19 grandchildren, and 7 great grandchildren. But we feel that our loss is her eternal gain. We remember how she so patiently took care of her husband in his affliction.

Yes, children, while mother was yet living she chose, like Mary, that good part which shall never be taken away from her. She made her peace call and election sure with God by repenting of her sins, doing the will of God by denying herself and taking up her cross and following Christ, her Savior. And Christ promised her that where he was that there she could be also. So, let me say to the children, your mother's sweet soul that caused you to love her so much in this world has returned to God, who gave it, but her body will return to the dust from whence it came, but in the resurrection at the last day, her body will come forth out of the grave, by the power of God, and will reunite with her soul, to live forever in the likeness of her Savior, Jesus Christ, our Lord, in that sweet place called Heaven that Jesus went to prepare for all that love and serve him. So, Children, if you want to live with your mother again, accept her Savior as your Savior and he will save to the uttermost them that come unto him. May God richly bless and save every one of you in my prayer in Jesus' name.

Written in hope of eternal life,

Elder Harold Edmonds

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#### **CAUSBY STURGILL**

Causby Sturgill was born June the 12th, 1956, and departed this life December, 17th, 1952. She is survived by one half brother, Lawrence Marcum, of Wayne, W. Va. and one half sister of Nolan, W. Va., Lottie Hensley. three sons and one daughter, Henry May, of Kirk, W. Va.; Blackburn Sturgill, of Lenore, W. Va.; Issac May of route One Kermit, W. Va.; Rebecca Hannah, Route One Kemit, W. Va.; two step sons and two step daughters, Wayne Sturgill, John Sturgill, Amanda Hannah, all of Route One Kermit, W. Va.; and Elizabeth Blackburn, of Clearmont, Fla.

She was married to John Sturgill, Sr. who preceeded her in death. She was the daughter of Mark and Rebecca Dempsey, and was a member of the Regular Baptist Church for several years prior to her death. Sister Causby's life was a shinning light to the neighborhood in which she lived, and was a great mother to everyone who knew her.

Written by, Elder Wallace Maynard



**BROTHER JOHN C. PRICE**

John C. Price, of Inez, Ky., was born November the 28th, 1881, deceased October, the 23rd, 1955, he was the son of Faraway W. and Jane (Ward) Price, and a life long resident of Martin County, Ky.

He became a member of the Buck Creek Church, of Regular Baptist, about four months before he died, being baptized by the hands of Elder Wayne Herald. He was a faithful and humble member and attended regularly as long as he was able. On Sunday afternoon before he died brothers, sisters, and friends, met in his home to worship with him. It was at this time that he said, "If I could have twenty years more to live I would spend it singing, praying, and serving the Lord."

Let us think of his passing as one who has the promise of an equal reward as all those that accept Christ, with Joy never ending. He leaves one brother, Elder Price, a host of relatives and friends to mourn his loss. I want to say to his brother, Elder, in order to be able to live with John again, you will have to repent of your sins and seek God before it is to late. Johns prayers for you have ceased, take up the cross as he did and meet him around the throne of Grace.

Written by a sister in Christ,

Nona Mills



### **OLLIE STANLEY**

It is with a sad heart that I try to write the obituary of sister Ollie Stanley, who I believe to be a sister in the faith of Christ and a faithful wife and mother to her husband and her children. She was born February 18th, 1879 at Canada, Ky., died February 28, 1956.

A daughter of Alonzo Smith, and was united in marriage to Joe Stanley. To this union were born, nine children, five of whom preceded her in death, four are still living, as follows: Mrs. Goldie Hall, Walter Stanley, Lorn Stanley and Ethel Stanley. Who Ethel Stanley married the writer does not know.

Sister Ollie joined the Regular Baptist Church and lived a good life in the Delbarton Church, for 29 years. Then in February, 1953 she was given a letter in good standing to the Salem Church of Regular Baptist, at Goody, Ky. She was always a good mother and wife. I have known this family for forty-five years.

Now to bother Joe just be faithful a few more years and you will meet sister Ollie and to you children if you want to live with mother again you must be born again, and live the life of a Christian in this life, to live with mother again over on the land where Jesus has gone to prepare for all that love and serve him.

Written by, Elder Wallace Maynard.

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### **GEORGE PRIVETT**

This obituary should have been in last years minutes, but was not turned into the Clerk.

It is with much sadness that I write the obituary of my true and loving husband, George Privett. Born June 3rd, 1912, and departed this life April 17, 1955. He was married to Roxie Gillman, January 9th 1932, and to this union were born three sons, Dallas, Jessie, and George Jr.; five daughters, Mary, Brookie, Bessie, Judy and Vada, all still living, also one grandchild.

George Joined the Regular Baptist Church, and was baptized by the hands of Elders John Fouch and J. H. Hensley, in the year of 1948, and placed his membership with the Tabitha Church, where he remained a faithful member until he became unable to attend the Church about two years before his death. I would love to say to our children, father is gone to return no more, try always as he did to do right and love one another, and if you ever want to see him again you must be born

again, and repent of your sins. For this is the commandments of the Lord, accept Christ as your saviour, trust in him as your father did let Jesus be your guide and he will lead you to the realms of Glory, where I feel we will meet with all those that have died in the living triumphs of faith. Now may God bless and protect you my loved ones.

Written by his lonesome wife,

Roxie Privett.

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**OLLIE SMITH**

It has fell to my lot to write an obituary, of a loving sister and mother, sister Ollie Smith, born March 16th, 1878, and departed this life, December 6, 1952.

She was married to Henry C. Smith, and to this union were born seven children, names as follows: William C. Prince and Author; daughters, Ida Nichols, Lydia and Annie Robertson, also 37 grandchildren.

She professed a hope in Christ and was baptized into the fellowship of the Big Branch Church of Regular Baptist, the 4th Sunday in September 1936, where she remained a faithful member until the death Angel called her home.

Now I want to say to her children those that are still in sin, trust in the Lord and walk in the way of righteousness that you may have Heaven for your home where you can join your mother in praising God for evermore. May the Lord bless and save you all is my prayers.

Written by her daughter inlaw,

Mrs. Prince Smith

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**T. W. McCOY**

With much sadness I will try to write a short obituary of my kind and loving father William T. McCoy. The son of A. P. and Mary Jane (Stotridge) McCoy, born June the 2nd, 1879, and departed this life November the 9th, 1955.

He was married to Jane Sherman and to this union were born six children, as follows: Conder McCoy, Mrs. Lark Maynard, Miss Fanny McCoy, all of Varney, Ky.; and Mrs. Bailey Taylor, of Thomas, Ky. Mother and two children preceeded him in death.

Father was married again, to Minnie Lowe, and to this union were born one daughter Mrs. Mary Jane Burke, of Dingess, W. Va. This wife also preceeded him in death.

Father was a member of the Old Regular Baptist Church, and I am led to believe from the life he lived before us, that his soul is resting in the paradise of God, where sorrow, pain and death will come no more.

A precious one from us is gone,  
A voice we loved is still,  
A place is vacant in our home,  
That never can be filled.

Written by one who loved him,

Mrs. Lark Maynard.

### **WILLIAM B. (JACK) RAY**

It is with a sad heart that I try to write the obituary of brother J. B. (Jack) Ray. He was born April the 3rd, 1891, and departed this life June 22, 1956, making his stay on earth 65 years, 2 months and 19 days.

He was the son of Thomas and Nancy (Robinett) Ray. Brother Ray was united in marriage to Truda Williamson September 20th, 1928, to this union were born six children, five sons and one daughter, namely, Paul Bennett, Lawrence James, Carrol Spencer, Bobby Edward, Jack Conley and Mrs. Joyce Emmogene Reynolds. His father, mother and two sisters preceeded him in death.

He leaves to mourn his loss his companion, six children, four grandchildren, three brothers and one sister; Mack Ray, Perry Ray, Lacy Ray and Mrs. Mary Ann Williamson, besides a host of friends and relatives with the entire membership of the Pilgrims Home Church, where he became a member on the fourth Sunday in September, 1951, and was baptized by the hands of Elders, Emmette Case and Jonah Ester Williamson.

Brother Jack lived a humble and faithful life until death called him away. I believe he fell asleep in Jesus, that Friday morning, and the Scriptures say they that fall asleep in Christ them will God bring with him. The Lord will come riding the clouds of Glory some day and your daddy will be with him and if you want to live with him repent of your sins and God will make you heirs of his Kingdom, and the same spirit that led your Daddy lead you children. Be good to

your mother in her lonely hours, and I want to say to Jackie, son stay at home with your mother and be a good boy. We loved him but God loved him most and sent his Angels to take him home where he went have to suffer any more.

Written by a brother in hope of eternal life,  
Elder Jonah Ester Williamson.

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**LEE MAYNARD**

Brother Lee Maynard was born February 12th, 1901, deceased June 17th, 1956. He was the son of Elder Moses Maynard. He was united in marriage to Hester Nichols, August 2nd, 1923, to this union were born five children, Brookie Merkley, Belvie Morrison, Billie, Beauford and David Lee, all of Heenon, Ky.

Brother Lee joined the Regular Baptist Church, and was baptized into the fellowship of the Apple Orchard Church by the hands of Elder Eldon Maynard. I believe Brother Lee done the commandments of God, that led him to Christ, and gave him right to the tree of life, and that life led him to be baptized in water and manifest baptist religion. The greatest light of brother Lee's religion seemed to be the kind of interest he had in his family and neighbors.

The people that knew him could hardly but notice the serious kindness he shed forth especially to the young people. He seemed sad a lot of the time which I thought was because of the trouble that might come upon his people and friends, but kindness and religious zeal outshined his sadness which was a solemn and beautiful Emblem of pure religion, and in the morning of the resurrection I believe that body will come forth, arise free from imperfection, and receive a just reward for such a beautiful life, which he lived here on earth. A life which I hope to share with him beyond the pearly gates. To his children and neighbors, I want to say don't forget him, and above all don't forget our God who gave him such a beautiful life.

Written by one in hope,  
R. B. Maynard

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**ALVIN PAYNE**

It is by the help of the Lord and with much sorrow that I now attempt to write this obituary of my Father Alvin Payne of Louisa, Ky. the son of Elbert and Nancy (Clevenger) Payne, who preceded him in death.

Father was born January 22nd, 1873, and departed this life October 24th, 1955. He was married to Elizabeth Spence about 65 years ago, and to this union were born 7 children, 3 of whom preceded him in death, surviving are, Mrs. Thomas York of Williamson, W. Va.; Mrs. K. C. Walker, of Lousia, Ky.; Elbert Payne, of Louisa, Ky.; and Mrs. J. F. Varney, of Turkey Creek, Ky.

Father became a member of the Turkey Creek Church of Old Regular Baptist in the year of 1946, and was baptized at the hands of Elders Lewis Marcum and Ken Varney. He was able to attend Church but very little after becoming a member due to his many afflictions. I miss His good council, we cannot hear that any more, in the last year or two while on earth and after he was totally blind, he would sit and quote bible by the hour and council us all. I feel within my heart that my father is at rest awaiting us around the throne of God where there will be no sickness, sorrow or pain. I also feel that our loss is his eternal gain, if we children ever see him again we will have to live as he did and follow his good council and guidance.

Written by his daughter,

Mrs. J. F. Varney.

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#### LEVY MAYNARD

By request, I will try to write an obituary of our beloved Brother Levy Maynard, best known to us as Uncle Lee, who departed this life March the 4th, 1956, age 76 years. A son of Barney Maynard, and was united in marriage to Nancy Smith in the year of 1899, and to this union was born 8 children, four preceded him in death. He joined the old Regular Baptist Church the first Saturday in June 1921, baptized by the hands of Elder Heenon Maynard. Brother Lee lived a faithful life until death, although he was afflicted many years and had to wear a (Peg) or artificial leg. He is now sleeping in the dust of the earth, at the time appointed the voice of God will sound so loud that it will awake the sleeping dead, and then the hope that uncle Lee had in this world will be no more hope but will be perfected and he will have a complete body where there will be no more pain, no more death, no more sorrow.

Written by a brother in hope,

Elder Elvert Maynard.

### CLYDE BOOTEN

By request of the family, I will try to write a short obituary of Brother Clyde Booten. He was born October 28th, 1902, at Wayne, W. Va., deceased this life November 23rd, 1955, being 53 years, and 26 days of age at time of death. He was the son of Rozella Booten, who preceeded him in death. Brother Clyde was married to Jane Catherine Romans, November the 20th, 1922, to this union were born four children, names as follows; James O. Booten, Rt. 1 Williamson, W. Va.; Jack E. Booten, of Logan, W. Va.; Mrs. Tom D. Bevins, of Sidney, Ky.; and Donald R. Booten, at home.

He leaves 4 sisters, 3 brothers and 2 half sisters, 2 brothers and 1 sister preceeded him in death, those that are left to mourn his passing are, Luther Booten, of Aflex, Ky.; Mrs. Oney Lowe, of Detroit Michigan; Mrs. Grace Blakely, of Sault St. Michigan; Mrs. Mae Morgan, of Davis, W. Va.; half sisters, Mrs. Nana Napper, of East Lynn, W. Va.; and Mrs. Blanche King, of Fort Gay, W. Va.

Brother Clyde gave a reason of his hope in Christ and answered that good concience by being baptized September 25th, 1955, by the hands of Elders Charlie Johnson and Jonah Ester Williamson, and placed his membership with the Mary Elizabeth Church of Old Regular Baptist. All of brother Clyde's, children together with his wife survive to mourn the passing of a loving father and husband, with the entire membership of the Mary Elizabeth Church.

Many good things could be said of this good brother, but I trust that the fruit he bore in the latter days of his life will take deep root in the hearts of his children, relatives and friends, and that they too may bear the same manner of fruit before their children. We read in the Holy Bible the book of all books, the beautiful phrase "by their fruits ye shall know them."

In conclusion I wish to say, to sister Jane and the children, don't weep for brother Clyde, for the fruit he bore is true evidence that he ate of that heavenly Manna, here on earth and is now gone to rest in the paradise of God. He can no more come to you but you by the Grace of God can go to him, put your trust in Jesus, He careth for you and will lead you home to Glory.

Humbly Yours,

George Farley

## HARVEY YOUNG

By request, I will attempt to write a short obituary of a brother in the Lord. Brother Harvey Young, the son of the late John (Major) and Alaphare (Runyon) Young, born December the 7th, 1877, was united in marriage to Elizabeth Ray, around 57 years ago. To this union were born 9 children, 4 sons and 5 daughters. 3 sons and 2 daughters with his loving companion preceeded him in death. The children that are left to mourn his loss are as follows: Mrs. Wealthy Case, of Pikeville, Ky.; Willie Young; Mrs. Marshall Williamson and Cecil Young, all of Varney, Ky.

He was married the second time to Mintie Maynard, who also survives. He leaves 3 brothers, Joe, George and Sam Young, with a host of friends and relatives to mourn his loss.

Brother Harvey joined the Regular Baptist Church, and was baptized into the fellowship of the Pilgrims Home Church, by the hands of Elder Jonah Bevins, May 28th, 1922, and lived a faithful member until the death angel visited his home and called him around 6 A.M. January the 23rd, 1956, making his stay on earth around 78 years. He was afflicted for a long period of time but bore it with much patience. A few days before he died, he called some of his children around his bedside and told them some wonderful news. He said the angels have visited him and made him feel much better. He quoted to them a portion of the 21st verse, of the 1st, chapter of Job, which says, the Lord gave, and the Lord hath taken away, blessed be the name of the Lord. The children that waited on him feel that his last days here on earth was his brightest ones, he told us he wanted Elders Tom Adair and Jonah Ester Williamson to preach his funeral. May God bless you children who have not already found Jesus precious to your Soul, get ready to meet your father and mother, over on the other shore where parting and death will come no more.

Written as requested,

By Troy T. Francis.

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## OCTAVIA MAYNARD

Sister Octavia Maynard the daughter of Jess Smith and Hester West Smith, was born October 25, 1870 and deceased this life about 11:20 P.M. March 10, 1956, making her stay here 85 years, 5 months and 15 days.



Aunt "Sissie" as we loved to call her was married to Dr. J. B. Maynard in 1900 and there were no children born in their family.

She was baptised at the hands of Elder Willie Hay on the 4th Sunday in June 1934, and became a member of the Narrows Branch Church of Old Regular Baptists, where she remained a faithful member until death took her from our midst.

Aunt "Sissie" leaves one brother, Pat Smith, of Canada, Kentucky besides a great host of relatives and friends who are left to mourn her loss. But we feel that our loss is he reternal gain.

She has chosen that good part which shall never be taken away from her. All that Aunt "Sissie" had in this world, relatives, friends, brothers, sisters and wealth was left behind when the death angel came and called her away. But, we feel sure that Christ has a mansion prepared for her, and that He is coming again to call her unto himself, that where He is there she may be also. And the best part of it is "When we've been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun; We've no less days to sing God's praise, than when we first begun."

The writer dreamed one night during the week before Aunt "Sissie" died of preaching a sister's funeral in the Mt. Pleasant Church. I could see the congregation, with the family seated on the lower side of the Church house next to the Bevins School, and I was in the stand saying so many good things about the deceased one, seemingly a sister. The day we attended to Aunt "Sissie's" funeral, the family was seated on the lower side of the house and in just the way I dreamed it, that I had to tell the congregation about the dream. The Lord works in mysterious ways, his wonders to fulfil.

My prayer for her brother, relatives, and friends is that we all may be ready on that day when Jesus comes, so that we can go home with him, and not be left behind like some.

May God richly bless and save every one of you is my prayer in Jesus' name.

Written by one she loved.

Elder Harold Edmons

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#### JOSHA MARCUM

It is with a sad heart and in deep sorrow, that I make attempt to write the obituary of my dear brother. In the flesh and in the Lord, Brother Joshua Marcum, a



son of Jacob and Susanner Marcum, born October the 21st, 1896, departed this life May the 12th 1956. Brother Joshua was married to Nola Mullins, and to this union were born 6 children, 4 sons and 2 daughters. His wife and two daughters preceeded him in death, and he was married the second time to Nellie Pinson, who also preceeded him in death. Brother Joshue joined the Old Regular Baptist Church the first Saturday in October 1938, and was baptized by the hands of Elders Ernie Runyon and Lewis Marcum. He leaves 3 brothers, 5 sisters, 6 children to mourn his loss but we feel our loss is his eternal gain.

Brother Joshua loved to tell people of Jesus and his Kingdom, he was well learned in the Scriptures. I have every reason to believe his soul is resting in the paradise of God, while his body is sleeping beneath the dust on John's Creek. When the last trump shall sound and Christ shall descend with a voice of the Ark Angel saying time is no longer to be, and all that are in the graves shall come forth. I believe brother will be in that number that John saw coming up through much tribulation, having their robes washed in the blood of the lamb.

Now to his children will you remember what your father told you, repent of your sins, put your trust in Jesus and meet your father and mother in Heaven where you will all be happily housed around the throne of God, is my prayers in your behalf.

Written by his brother,

Elder Lewis Marcum.

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#### PAUL ADKINS

With sadness of heart and in deep sorrow, I attempt to write the obituary of my dearly beloved Uncle, Paul Adkins. He was the son of Robert Fulton and Margaret (Mars) Adkins. He was born May 5, 1908 at Thacker, West Virginia. He was united in marriage September 28, 1930 to Nance Jane Farley, who preceeded him in death September 12, 1941. To this union were born four children, Sammy, Tommy, Virginia and Paul Jr. He was later married to Agnes Bragg, September 8, 1946 and to this union were born three children. Alice Faye, Daniel Ray and Alan Leonard. Also to mourn his loss are the following brothers and sisters, Allen and Claude Adkins, of Pie, W. Va.; Pet Kirk, of B dwell, Ohio, and Virgie Crouch of Martinsville, Virginia.

He joined the Regular Baptist Church in August, 1952 and departed this life on March 8, 1955. He is sadly missed by the Muncy Valley Church and a host of friends and relatives.

We believe that brother Paul is resting from the troubles of this life in the sweet resurrection, we can all be with him again. Where we will be able to give God the praise and never have to part any more.

Written by Strauther Adkins

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### ALLEN SMITH

Brother Allen Smith, the son of John Smith and Jenny Taylor Smith, was born October 22, 1872 and deceased this life on June 17, 1956 making his stay here in this world 83 years, 7 months, and 25 days.

Brother Allen married Sister Myrtle Damron and was true to his marriage vows until death separated them after a long and happy married life. They had no children.

Brother Allen felt that the Lord for Christ's sake forgave his sins and was baptized into the membership of the Mount Pleasant Church of Old Regular Baptist of Jesus Christ where he remained a faithful member until death took him away. In his last sickness, he requested the brethren to hold services at his home and pray for him.

Besides his wife, sister Myrtle Damron Smith, he leaves one brother, W. H. Smith, of Penrose, North Carolina; and two sisters, Mrs. Maude Frazier, of Radnor, W. Va.; and Mrs. Fanny Varney, of Stanley, Virginia, together with a great host of relatives and friends who are left to mourn his loss.

But we feel that our loss is his eternal gain. Christ said, "If any man will come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me." Undoubtedly, brother Allen did deny himself and took up his cross and followed his Savior in all of the ordinances of the Church, obeying him in all things. And finally his sweet spirit left his feeble body to go back to God who gave it to await the redemption of his body in the resurrection of the dead, when it shall be raised an incorruptible body to live forever in Heaven with God and with Christ and with all of the saints of the most high God, to whom be praises forever and ever.

Written by, Elder Harold Edmonds

## CONSTITUTION

From a long series of experiences, we, the churches of Jesus Christ being regularly baptized upon our profession of faith in Jesus Christ, are convinced of the necessity of a combination of churches in order to perpetuate a union and communion among us and preserve, maintain and keep the rules and orders of an association according to the following form of government:

Article I. The association shall be composed of members chosen by the different churches and duly sent to represent them in this association, who shall be members whom they shall think best qualified for the purpose. And, producing letters from their respective churches certifying their appointment, shall be entitled to seats.

Article II. In the letters from the different churches, shall be expressed their number in full fellowship, their baptized, received by letters, restored, dismissed, excommunicated and dead since the last association.

Article III. The members thus chosen and convened shall have no power to lord it over God's heritage, nor shall they infringe upon the internal rights of any church in the union.

Article IV. The association, when convened, shall be governed and ruled by a regular and proper decorum.

Article V. The association shall have a Moderator and Assistant Moderator, a Clerk and Assistant Clerk, also a Treasurer, who shall be chosen by the suffrage of the members present.

Article VI. New churches may be admitted into our union that shall petition by letters and delegates, and if found upon examination to be orthodox and orderly, shall be received by the association and manifested by the Moderator giving the right hand of fellowship.

Article VII. Every church in the union shall be entitled to a representative in the association.

Article VIII. Every query presented by any church to the association being first debated by their own church, shall be taken up by the association.

Article IX. Every motion made and seconded shall be taken up by the association, except it be withdrawn by the member who made it.

Article X. The association shall endeavor to furnish the churches with the minutes of the association.

Article XI. The churches shall send money by the delegates of each church for printing the minutes of the association.

Article XII. There shall be a record book kept wherein the proceedings of every association shall be regularly recorded by the secretary appointed for that purpose.

Article XIII. The minutes of the association shall be read and corrected, if need be, and signed by the Moderator and Clerk before the association rises.

Article XIV. Amendments to this plan or form of government may be made at any time, by a majority of the union, when they deem necessary.

Article XV. All matters coming before the association shall be decided by the will of the majority.

Article XVI. The association shall have power:

1. To provide for the general union of churches.
2. To preserve inviolable a chain of communication among the churches.
3. To give the churches all necessary advice in matters of difficulty.
4. To inquire into the cause when the churches fail at any time to present themselves in the association.
5. To appoint any member by and with their consent to transact any business which they think necessary.
6. The association shall have power to withdraw from any church in this union which shall violate the rules of the association or deviate from the orthodox principles of religion.
7. To admit any orderly minister of our order to a seat with us in the association.
8. The association shall have power to adjourn themselves to any future time or place they may think most convenient to the churches of the union. That no minister shall be ordained unless forwarded by the church, and it shall require two or more ordained ministers to compose a presbytery for that purpose.

## ARTICLES OF FAITH

Article I. We believe the Holy Bible was written by men divinely inspired and is a perfect treasure of Heaven by instinct, that it has God for its Author; salvation for its end, and truth without any mixture of error for its matter; that it reveals the principles by which God will judge us and, therefore, is and shall remain to the end of the world the true center of Christian union and the supreme standard by which all human conduct and opinions shall be tried.

Article II. That there is one and only one true and living God, whose name is Jehovah, the maker and the supreme ruler of Heaven and earth, inexpressible, glorious in holiness, worthy of all possible honor, confidence and love, revealed under the personal relation of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, equal in every divine perfection, and executing distinct, but harmonious, offices in the great work of redemption.

Article III. That man was created in a state of holiness under the law of his maker, but by voluntary transgression, fell from that holy and happy state, in consequence of which all mankind are now sinners, not by constraint, but by choice, being by nature utterly devoid of that holiness, required by the law of God, wholly given to the gratification of the world, to Satan, and their ever sinful passions, and, therefore, are under just condemnation to eternal ruin without defense or excuse.

Article IV. That the salvation of sinners is wholly of grace, the meditorial offer of the son of God, who took upon Him our nature yet, without sin honored the law by His personal obedience and made atonement for our sins by his death, being risen from the dead, he is entered into Heaven and uniting in his wonderful person the tenderest sympathies with divine perfection, is in every way qualified to be a suitable, a compassionate, and an all sufficient Saviour.

Article V. That the great gospel blessing which Christ in his fullness bestowed in such as believe in him, is justified and that justification consists in the pardon of his sins and the promise of eternal life on principles of righteousness, that it is bestowed, not in condition of any works of righteousness we have done, but through his own righteousness.

Article VI. That the blessings of salvation are made free to all by the Gospel, and that it is the immediate duty of all to accept them by a cordial and obedient faith.

Article VII. That in order to be saved, we must be regenerated or born again, that regeneration consists in giving holy disposition to the mind and is effected in a manner above our comprehension or calculation by the power of the Holy Spirit so as to secure our voluntary obedience to the Gospel, and its proper evidence is found in the holy fruit which we bring forth to the Glory of God.

Article VIII. That such only are real believers as endure to the end, that their persevering attachment to Christ is the ground work which distinguish them from superficial professors, that a special providence watches over their welfare and they are kept by the power of God, through faith unto salvation.

Article IX. That a visible Church of Christ is a congregation of Baptized believers associated by a covenant of faith in the Gospel, observing the ordinances of Christ's government by His law and exercising the gifts, rights, and privileges in them by his work, that its only proper officers are bishops or pastors and deacons, whose qualification claims and duties are described in the Epistles of Timothy and Titus.

Article X. That Christian baptism is the immersion of a believer in water in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost, to a solemn and beautiful emblem of our faith in a crucified and risen Saviour, with His purifying power that is presented to the privilege of a Church unto the Lord's Supper in which the members of the church, by the use of bread and wine, are to commemorate together the dying love of Christ, preceded always by a solemn and self examination.

Article XI. We believe that feet washing is an example of Jesus Christ, and ought to be observed and kept up by His Church until His second coming.

Article XII. We believe in the resurrection of the dead, both of the just and the unjust. Also that the happiness of the saints, and the punishment of the wicked are eternal.

## RULES OF DECORUM

Article I. The association to be opened and closed by prayer.

Article II. The Moderator and Clerk shall be chosen by the suffrage of the members present.

Article III. Only one member shall speak at a time and he shall rise from his seat and address the Moderator when he is about to make a speech.

Article IV. The person thus speaking shall not be interrupted in his speech, except by the Moderator, until he is done speaking, and shall strictly adhere to the subject, and in no wise reflect upon the person who spoke before, nor make remarks on mishaps, failures or imperfections, but shall verily state the cause and matter as nearly as he can, so as to convey his light and idea.

Article V. No person shall rise and speak more than three times on one subject without consent of the association.

Article VI. No person shall abruptly break off or absent himself from the association without liberty obtained therefrom.

Article VII. No member of the association shall have the liberty of laughing during the sittings nor whispering in the time of public speech.

Article VIII. No members of this association shall address another by any other term or appellation other than that of brother.

Article IX. The Moderator shall not interrupt a member nor prohibit him from speaking until he gives his light upon the subject, except when he breaks the rules of decorum.

Article X. The names of the several members of the association shall be enrolled by the Clerk and called over as often as the Moderator requires.

Article XI. The Moderator shall have the same privilege of speech as another member; provided the chair be filled, but shall have no vote unless the association be equally divided.

Article XII. Any member who shall wilfully and knowingly break any of the rules shall be reproved by the association as it may think proper.

Article XIII. The delegation to be seated in this association shall be limited to three members from each church.

Article XIV. No person shall speak more than five (5) minutes at the same time without liberty obtained from the association.



**Names and Addresses of  
ORDAINED MINISTERS**

ADAIR, TOMMY ----- Rt. 1, Box 5, Delbarton, W. Va.  
 ADAIR, JOHNNIE ----- Rt. 1, Delbarton, W. Va.  
 ANDERSON, J. B. ----- Matewan, W. Va.  
 ADKINS, STRAUTHER ----- Rt. 2, Box 148, Delbarton, W. Va.  
 ADKINS, ROBERT ----- Charlottesville, Va.  
 BEVINS, B. H. ----- Box 655, Williamson, W. Va.  
 BEVINS, JONAH ----- Box 1534, Williamson, W. Va.  
 BROWN, J. H. ----- Canada, Ky.  
 BLACKBURN, WILLIS ----- Goody, Ky.  
 BLAIR, LESLIE ----- Hunt, W. Va.  
 BROWN, CLAUD ----- Hardy, Ky.  
 CAREY, GROVER ----- RFD 1, Delbarton, W. Va.  
 CASE, EMMETTE ----- Sidney, Ky.  
 CLINE, PERRY ----- Baisden, W. Va.  
 CLINE, FLOYD ----- Baisden, W. Va.  
 CLINE, JOHNNIE ----- Baisden, W. Va.  
 CLINE, ROSS ----- Baisden, W. Va.  
 CLAY, EARL ----- Box 433, Okeechobee, Fla.  
 COCHRAN, ERNEST ----- Canada, Ky.  
 CANTERBURY, PERCY ----- Box 196, Delbarton, W. Va.  
 DAVIS, ELLIS ----- Box 64, Lenore, W. Va.  
 DAMRON, R. A. ----- Box 366, Barboursville, W. Va.  
 DIALS, WILLIS ----- Pilgrim, Ky.  
 EVANS, CHARLIE ----- Stirrat, W. Va.  
 EVANS, CECIL ----- RFD 2, Delbarton, W. Va.  
 ELLIS, MONT ----- Rt. 2, Box 143, Delbarton, W. Va.  
 EDMONDS, HAROLD ----- Box 88, Canada, Ky.  
 FOUCH, JOHN ----- Chapmanville, W. Va.  
 FRALEY, S. B. ----- Hatfield, Ky.  
 HATFIELD, TRACY ----- Hampden, W. Va.  
 HAY, W. C. ----- Box 108, Okeechobee, Fla.  
 HOPKINS, ESTER ----- Box 819, Williamson, W. Va.  
 HERALD, WAYNE ----- Box 586, Kermit, W. Va.  
 HENSLEY, J. H. ----- Switzer, W. Va.  
 HOWARD, CLINTON ----- Threeforks, Ky.  
 HARRISON, IRELAND ----- Box 43, Borderland, W. Va.  
 GIBSON, CARLOS ----- Lenore, W. Va.  
 JOHNSON, CHARLIE ----- Canada, Ky.  
 JUDE, BILL ----- Pilgrim, Ky.  
 LOWE, L. G. ----- Box 51, Turkey Creek, Ky.  
 LOWE, AVERY ----- Turkey Creek, Ky.  
 LOWE, JOHN ----- 1807 N. Magnola, St., Ocala, Fla.  
 LOWE, HARVEY ----- Gulnare, Ky.  
 MAYNARD, H. C. ----- Stone, Ky.  
 MAYNARD, ELDON ----- Heenon, Ky.  
 MAY, W. H. ----- Dingess, W. Va.  
 MARCUM, LEWIS ----- Turkey Creek, Ky.  
 MAY, JEFF ----- Dingess, W. Va.  
 MAY, EDWIN ----- Meta, Ky.  
 MEADOWS, CARLOS ----- Omar, W. Va.  
 MAYNARD, WALLACE ----- Rt. 1, Box 197, Williamson, W. Va.  
 MAYNARD, MOSES ----- Rt. 1, Box 197, Williamson, W. Va.  
 MAYNARD, ELVERT ----- Box 1902, N. 5th, St., Ocala, Fla.  
 McCOY, J. W. ----- Hardy, Ky.  
 McCOY, CLARENCE ----- Roadfork, Ky.  
 NICHOLS, J. L. ----- Thomas, Ky.  
 PAULEY, SHADLE ----- Beauty, Ky.  
 RUNYON, ORVILLE ----- Chattaroy, W. Va.  
 SHEPHERD, A. A. ----- Holden, W. Va.



SHEPHERD, WATT ----- RFD 1, Delbarton, W. Va.  
 SMITH, LEWIS ----- Hardy, Ky.  
 STANLEY, WILLIE ----- Hardy, Ky.  
 SWANSON, C. L. ----- 508 20th St., N.W., Roanoke, Va.  
 SCOTT, DOCK ----- Hardy, Ky.  
 SESCO, LOYD ----- Meta, Ky.  
 THORNSBURY, J. G. ----- Canada, Ky.  
 VARNEY, KENNIE ----- Box 1942, Williamson, W. Va.  
 VARNEY, WILLIE ----- Rt. 1, Delbarton, W. Va.  
 WHITE WILLIE ----- Lenore, W. Va.  
 WILLIAMSON, JONAH ESTER ----- Varney, Ky.

**Brothers Liberated To Prove Their Gift**

RUDOLPH, SESCO ----- Meta, Ky.  
 WILLARD BLAIR ----- Lenore, W. Va.  
 R. B. MAYNARD ----- Heenon, Ky.

**Names and Addresses of CLERKS**

Mt. Pleasant ----- Monroe Smith ----- Sidney, Ky.  
 Apple Orchard ----- Elcainie Robinson ----- Heenon, Ky.  
 Enon ----- Ethel Varney ----- McCarr, Ky.  
 Rebecca ----- F. M. Preece ----- RFD 1, Delbarton, W. Va.  
 Bent Branch ----- Forrest Bevins ----- Meta, Ky.  
 Sardis ----- Moses Maynard ----- Rt. 1, Box 197,  
 Delbarton, W. Va.  
 Big Branch ----- J. L. Nichols ----- Thomas, Ky.  
 Mary Elizabeth ----- Lacy Lowe ----- Hatfield, Ky.  
 Bethany ----- Ellis Davis ----- Box 64, Lenore, W. Va.  
 Elk Fork ----- Dewey Vernatter ----- RFD 1, Delbarton, W. Va.  
 Pilgrims Home ----- Troy T. Francis ----- Box 52, Williamson, W. Va.  
 Salem ----- A. M. Varney ----- Road Fork, Ky.  
 Sidney ----- Stella Maynard ----- Threeforks, Ky.  
 Dix Fork ----- Omer Williamson ----- Canada, Ky.  
 Narrows Branch ----- Dock Scott ----- Hardy, Ky.  
 Leannah ----- T. J. Robinson ----- Moree, Ky.  
 Buck Creek ----- Edna Herald ----- Box 586, Kermit, W. Va.  
 Tabitha ----- Comfort Gilman ----- Barnabus, W. Va.  
 Little Rosa ----- Fay Scott ----- Rt. 1, Box 220, Williamson, W. Va.  
 Turkey Creek ----- Fred Lowe ----- Turkey Creek, Ky.  
 Samaria ----- Jeff May ----- Dingess, W. Va.  
 Rosa ----- Dewey Cline ----- Baisden, W. Va.  
 Muncy Valley ----- Willard W. Adkins ----- Rt. 2, Delbarton, W. Va.  
 Little Virgie ----- Ohlon Justice ----- Rt. 2, Kimper, Ky.  
 Southern Home ----- Elvert Maynard ----- Rt. 1, Box 84, Citra, Fla.